

## Message Text

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14

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 OC-05 ISO-00 CCO-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 OPR-02 L-03 SCCT-01

INRE-00 NSCE-00 /059 W

----- 007969

O R 051110Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5564

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 6169

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, LA, US

SUBJECT: DETAINING OF UNCLASSIFIED DIPLOMATIC POUCH

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 1545 ON NOVEMBER 5 EMBASSY AIT LICENSED VAN WITH TWO EMBASSY LOCAL EMPLOYEES ABOARD WAS STOPPED BY SECURITY FORCES AT CHECKPOINT AT APOLLO HOTEL ON ROUTE FROM WATTAY AIRPORT TO EMBASSY. VAN CONTAINED UNCLASSIFIED DIPLOMATIC POUCH. INDIVIDUALS MANNING CHECKPOINT ASKED THAT BAGS BE OPENED. LOCAL EMPLOYEES REFUSED. ONE EMPLOYEE THEN HAILED TAXI AND REPORTED TO EMBASSY. OTHER STAYED WITH VAN AND WHEN GSO ARRIVED AT SCENE AT 1635, BRINGING CLASSIFIED POUCH, HE WAIVED HIM DOWN. GSO THEN DISCUSSED SITUATION WITH CHECKPOINT PERSONNEL WHILE CONTINUING TO REFUSE TO OPEN POUCH. AT APPROXIMATELY 1645 VAN AND POUCH WERE RELEASED AND PROCEEDED TO THE CHANCERY.

2. IN THE MEANTIME, ACTING OF REPORT OF FIRST LOCAL EMPLOYEE, AND AFTER BEING UNABLE TO GET THROUGH TO ANYONE IN AUTHORITY BY TELEPHONE AT THE MFA, I WENT TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE MFA AT 1620 ACCOMPANIED BY POLITICAL OFFICER. I

ENCOUNTERED SECRETARY GENERAL NAKKHALA SOUVANNAVONG IN THE HALL AND NAKKHALA REFERRED ME TO DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL KHAMTAN RATANAVONG. KHAMTAN LISTENED TO MY ACCOUNT, CONSULTED THE MFA CHIEF COMMUNIST CADRE, CHEF DE CABINET SOUBANH SRITHIRATH, AND AGREED TO SEND TWO PROTOCOL OFFICERS TO ACCOMPANY US TO APOLLO HOTEL TO DISCUSS THE SITUATION WITH SECURITY AUTHORITIES THERE, HOWEVER, JUST AS CAVALCADE WAS ABOUT TO SET OUT FROM MFA, GSO ARRIVED WITH WORD THAT POUCH AND VAN ALREADY FREED.

3. DURING CONVERSATION WITH KHAMTAN, I EMPHASIZED SERIOUSNESS OF THIS AND THE OTHER RECENT INCIDENTS IN WHICH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE LAO GOVERNMENT HAD VIOLATED DIPLOMATIC CONVENTIONS. I ADDED THAT I WOULD, OF COURSE, HAVE TO REPORT INCIDENT TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND ASK ITS INSTRUCTIONS.

4. COMMENT: THIS MOST RECENT INCIDENT TENDS TO CONFIRM INFORMATION WE HAVE RECEIVED OF THE LAUNCHING OF A CAMPAIGN OF SPECIFIC HARASSMENTS AGAINST THIS EMBASSY. I PROPOSE TO WATCH AND WAIT A BIT LONGER AND WHEN WE HAVE ACCUMULATED A LITTLE MORE EVIDENCE TO OFFER SOME IDEAS ON HOW WE MIGHT REACT. MEANWHILE WE SHALL BE CAREFUL TO USE ONLY VEHICLES WITH CD PLATES FOR TRANSPORTING UNCLASSIFIED AS WELL AS CLASSIFIED POUCHES.  
CORCORAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, POUCH SERVICES, DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL HARASSMENT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975VIENTI06169  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750384-0225  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 JUL 2003  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DETAINING OF UNCLASSIFIED DIPLOMATIC POUCH CINCPAC FOR POLAD  
**TAGS:** PFOR, LA, US  
**To:** STATE  
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